

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-44. (Cancelled).

45. (Previously Presented) A digital system comprising:

a host controller;

a device driver to operate the host controller to initiate and perform a first transaction at a first time between the host controller and a hub and to initiate and repeat the first transaction at a second time between the host controller and the hub;

wherein the hub is to perform a second transaction with an agent based upon the first transaction at the first time; and wherein the first transaction at the second time is repeated after the second transaction, and further wherein the host controller is to send, during the first transaction at the first time, a first packet including agent identification information and a transfer indicator indicating that data needs to be transferred between the host controller and the hub, and to transfer, during the first transaction at the first time, a data packet between the host controller and the hub.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein the host controller is to process, during the first transaction at the first time, at least one of an acknowledgment, a handshake indication, or a timeout indication.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 45, wherein the data packet is transferred from the host controller to the hub.

48. (Previously Presented) A digital system comprising:

a host controller;

a device driver to operate the host controller to initiate and perform a first transaction at a first time between the host controller and a hub and to initiate and repeat the first transaction at a second time between the host controller and the hub;

wherein the hub is to perform a second transaction with an agent based upon the first transaction at the first time; and wherein the first transaction at the second time is repeated after the second transaction, and further wherein the host controller is to send to the hub, during the first transaction at the second time, a first packet including agent identification information and a transfer indicator indicating that data needs to be transferred between the hub and host controller, and to transfer, during the first transaction at the second time, a data packet between the host controller and the hub.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the host controller is to process, during the first transaction at the second time, at least one of an acknowledgment, a handshake indication, or a timeout indication.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the data packet is transferred from the hub to the host controller.

51. (Previously Presented) A digital system comprising:

a first hub controller to initiate and perform a first transaction at a first time with a

host controller and to initiate and perform the first transaction at a second time with the host controller;

a second hub controller coupled to the first hub controller to perform a second transaction with an agent based upon the first transaction at the first time; and

wherein the first transaction at the second time is performed after the second transaction, and wherein the first hub controller is to receive from the host controller a first packet including agent identification information, a transfer indicator indicating that data needs to be transferred between the host controller and the first hub controller, during the first transaction at the first time, and to transfer a data packet between the first hub controller and the host controller, during the first transaction at the first time.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the first hub controller is to send to the host controller at least one of an acknowledgment or a handshake indication during the first transaction at the first time.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the data packet is transferred from the host controller to the first hub controller.

54. (Previously Presented) A digital system comprising:

a first hub controller to initiate and perform a first transaction at a first time with a host controller and to initiate and perform the first transaction at a second time with the host controller;

a second hub controller coupled to the first hub controller to perform a second transaction with an agent based upon the first transaction at the first time; and

wherein the first transaction at the second time is performed after the second transaction, and wherein the first hub controller is to receive from the host controller a first packet including agent identification information and a transfer indicator indicating that data needs to be transferred between the first hub controller and the host controller, during the first transaction at the second time, and to transfer a data packet between the first hub controller and the host controller during the first transaction at the second time.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the first hub controller is to send to the host controller at least one of an acknowledgment or a handshake indication.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54, wherein the data packet is transferred from the host controller to the first hub controller.